

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 20, page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

The blend is extruded through an annular die to form a molten material tube. The molten material tube is then pulled around a ~~fixed~~ flexible internal orientation device (FIOD) to form the film. The FIOD (see Fig. 1) is a device installed on the die of a high-stalk blown film line. It provides a means for allowing decreased gauge of polyethylene films. The FIOD makes it possible to prepare thin (less than 1 mil) polyethylene films from the LLDPE-rich blends. The film has increased tear strength.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 29, page 2 under the title "Description of the Drawing" with the following amended paragraph:

Fig.1 illustrates FIOD (~~Fixed~~ Flexible Internal Orientation Device).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 32, page 2 and ending at line 5, page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The invention is a polyethylene thin film production process. The process comprises extruding a blend of a linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) and a high molecular weight polyethylene selected from a high molecular weight, high density polyethylene (HMW-HDPE) or high molecular weight, medium density polyethylene (HMW-MDPE) through an annular die to form a molten material tube and pulling the molten material tube around a ~~fixed~~ flexible internal orientation device (FIOD) to form the film.